

THE

שקל

SHEKEL

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HIGHLIGHTS

Hannuka Commemoratives

Medal of Honor Die Variety

Byzantium Hoard Discovered

Themes of Coins and Stamps

Grading and Evaluating Paper Money

Weekend Israel Seminar

Five Livres Turque

Ben-Gurion Commemorative Coin Set

New Year Token Struck in Error

Pidyon Haben and Hannuka Coins

Club News and Others

See Table of Contents Page 1



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THE SHEKEL is the official publication of the AMERICAN ISRAEL NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION, INC. and will appear quarterly with the purpose of establishing an authoritative source of information and knowledge pertaining to numismatics of Modern and Ancient Israel. THE SHEKEL will bring to all numismatists the most current information available with reference to the foregoing.

THE SHEKEL will exist only for the benefit of its readers. To further that purpose, it will coordinate the activities of all with the hope that there will be a meaningful interchange of information, views and ideas through its pages.

THE SHEKEL will strive to be informative, interesting, educational and entertaining. To that end, it will endeavor to obtain articles and treatises from leading authorities in the United States, Israel and from other countries.

Finally, THE SHEKEL will be of interest not only to advanced collectors and numismatists but also to those just starting out on that delightful path leading to greater understanding and knowledge of Israeli numismatics.



THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

With 1974 moving towards its close, I am already looking forward to what we may all expect 1975 to bring.

We are looking forward to the exciting Seventh Annual Study Tour of Israel.

We are looking forward to the Third Annual AINA Convention at the Greater New York Coin Show in May at the New York Sheraton.

We are looking forward to the announcement in the next 90 days of possibly three more INS Clubs now in development in southern cities of the U. S. Welcome . . . INS of Orange County, Calif.! Welcome . . . INS of Queens, N. Y.!

We are looking forward to all of the benefits which have begun to accrue from this most successful year for AINA. Don't miss the fact that de-

(Continued on Page 32)

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

Hannuka Commemoratives by Dr. Sheldon S. Brown	2
Medal of Honor Variety by Albert J. Schmeidler	4
Byzantium Hoard Found Near Rambam Hospital by Eli Semmelmann, Haifa	6
Stamps? Coins? by Anne and Allan Greenberg	9
Aleph Beth by Edward Janis	11
A Simplified Method for Grading and Evaluating Paper Money by Herbert J. Kwart	12
Five Livres Turque Banque Imperiale Ottoman by Samuel Lachman, Haifa	15
Medal Found of 19th Century Cologne Synagogue by Albert J. Schmeidler	17
Ben-Gurion Commemorative Coin Set Announced	19
A Letter from Yitzhak Avni	20
IGCMC New Year Token Struck in Error by Sylvia Haffner, Jerusalem	21
Sanbar Honored At AINA Reception	23
Weekend Israel Seminar in Michigan Hears Experts	24
AINA Aids Israel Emergency Fund by Robert Messing	26
Pidyon Haben and Hannuka Coins Announced	27
Club News	28

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HANUKKA COMMEMORATIVES

by Dr. Sheldon S. Brown

NORTH SHORE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Beverly, Mass.

Talk delivered on December 6, 1973
at meeting of INS of Massachusetts
Brandeis University
Jewish Historical Society,
Waltham, Massachusetts

The Hanukka Commemoratives are six one-pound coins struck by the State of Israel between 1958 and 1962 to honor Hanukka, the "Festival of Lights." The series was discontinued in 1963 because the regular one-pound trade coin was issued and there was some concern that the public (not the numismatists) might confuse two kinds of one-pound coins (4, p. 94).

"LAW IS LIGHT"

The first Hanukka coin issued in 1958 is inscribed with "Law is Light" and depicts the *Menorah*, the seven-branch candelabra. Why was the candelabra of the ancient Temple in Jerusalem used instead of the eight-branch lamp that is traditionally lit for Hanukkah?

The candelabra on the coin can be traced back to the time of Antigonus Mattathias. Antigonus descended from the Hasmonean priestly family. The Hasmoneans led by Mattathias and his five sons successfully overthrew Syrian-Greek tyranny over Judea in 165 B.C.E., and established Hanukka as the first festival in the history of mankind to mark a fight for religious freedom.

Antigonus' rule over Judea was short-lived because of his inadequacies as a soldier and statesman (3, pp. 93-95). The Romans defeated Judea and captured Antigonus. This brought an end to Judean independence and the Hasmonean dynasty. During Antigonus' rule (40-37 B.C.E.), coins were struck. For the first time in history, the Temple candlestick was represented on one of the ancient coins of Antigonus (8, p. 17). The

Menorah became the most characteristic symbol of Judaism in later days (ibid.). Antigonus' bronze coin is found in the British Museum collection (1, p. 77).

What did the seven lamps of the semicircular-shaped candlestick symbolize? According to some scholars it represents the stars or planets that give light (9, p. 36). The Midrash teaches that the seven lights correspond to the seven stars that supposedly roam in the world (ibid.). Both the candlestick and stars give light. The candlestick gave light to the Temple whereas the stars give light to the universe. Both are therefore lights of the Lord.

Why was the slogan "The Law is Light" selected for the first coin? According to Rabbi Elazar of the third century, whoever makes use of the light of Torah (Law), has a share in the world to come (7, p. 600). He also added that those who die outside of Palestine (Israel) will not have a share in the world to come (ibid.).

This slogan may be related to the "Law of Return" stressed by the late David Ben-Gurion of Blessed Memory. One of his outspoken and fervent hopes was for as many Jews as possible to settle in Israel. He prophesied that for the Jew to fulfill himself as a Jew, he must immigrate to Israel. So did Rabbi Elazar teach that for a share in the world to come, a Jew must live in the Land of Israel.

"JUBILEE OF DEGANYA"

The second coin was issued late and should have been dated 1959, but was dated 1960 in error. (4, p. 93). Deganya was the first collective settlement established in Palestine in 1909 and served as a prototype of later settlements (6, pp. 95-98). Consequently, she has been referred to as the mother settlement.

Deganya became the first settlement of the Second *Aliyah*, of Jewish immigration "going up" to Palestine from the pogroms and revolution in Russia. The pioneers came to malaria infested swamps by the Sea of Galilee with the determination to make it a fertile place of *Dagan* or grain. Each one worked for the benefit of the entire community on land leased from the Jewish National Fund. They worked with spade in one hand and rifle for protection in the other. They lived in tents and subsisted on a diet of soup. Hebrew became the spoken language.

The most famous settler was the noted writer A. D. Gordon known as the "Sage of Deganya." Gordon imbued the pioneers with a culture of work: love of work and its holiness. He became a hero to the pioneers, *Halutzim*, and was called the father of the *Halutz* movement.

"CENTENARY OF HENRIETTA SZOLD"

The third coin appeared also in 1960 and honored the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Henrietta Szold. The coin appropriately followed Deganya, for it was Henrietta Szold who helped the pioneering settlements develop health services and prevent malaria from spreading among Jews and Arabs alike (5, pp. 165-173).

Henrietta Szold began her career as a high school teacher in Baltimore. She founded and directed the first night schools in America, which was particularly helpful to Russian Jewish immigrants. At the age of 33, she was appointed editor of the Jewish Publication Society. She later became the first woman to attend classes at the Jewish Theological Seminary. As a staunch Zionist, she was convinced of

the necessity of a Jewish homeland.

In 1912 Henrietta Szold founded Hadassah to support welfare services for Palestine. Hadassah is the Hebrew name of Queen Esther of the Bible who saved the Jews of Persia from certain destruction at the hands of the cruel prime minister Haman in approximately the third century B.C.E. (1, p. 484).

At the age of 60, Henrietta Szold went to Palestine to personally set up medical clinics and was inspired by what she saw in the country. She was elected by the World Zionist Organization to govern Zionist affairs in Palestine. At the laying of the cornerstone of Hadassah Hospital, she was highly praised.

Henrietta never had children of her own, but she did become a mother to about 30,000 children whom she saved from the Nazis by organizing their transfer to Palestine despite British restrictions on Jewish immigration. Bringing children to the Land of Israel was called *Youth Aliyah*. This prophetess and heroine died in 1945 at the age of 84.

"HEROISM AND SACRIFICE"

The fourth coin issued in 1961 is inscribed with "He Gave up his Life in Battle" on the obverse. This slogan and the story behind it are found in the First Book of Maccabees 6:42-46 (2, p. 400). The book is found among the works of the *Apocrypha*, those books that followed the closing of the Bible canon.

"LAMPS"

On the reverse, Eleazer, son of Mattathias, is portrayed stabbing the

Continued on page 32

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MEDAL OF HONOR VARIETY

by Albert J. Schmeidler

Recently while photographing my Israeli Official State Medals, I discovered what I believe to be a variety in the 59mm silver *Medal of Valour* of 1962. (IGGAM Corporation Catalogue No. 10305054; Haffner No. M-2; Kagan No. SM-2/CM36C).

At a meeting of the Westchester

Israel Numismatic Society (W.I.N.S.), it was the opinion of knowledgeable members that this was indeed a variety.

Here are the differences in two of the 59mm silver medals in my collection:



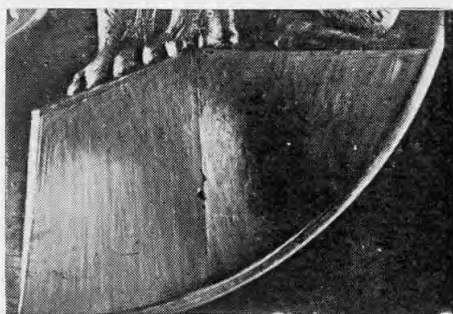
Variety A: Base under lion clearly shows bricks. Hebrew letter (lamed) on obverse joins one below without a "break".



Variety B: Base under lion is smooth without outline of bricks. Hebrew letter on obverse (lamed) joins one below with a small indentation to separate upper from lower letter.



Variety A is top; small inscription. Variety B is below; large inscription.



Variety A (detail of base under lion): note suggestion of bricks.

The *Medal of Valour* was struck in the following metals and sizes: Copper — 59mm; tombac — 59mm; silver — 35mm; silver — 59mm; and tombac — 35mm, the *AINA 1971 Israel Study Tour Presentation Medal*.

A 59mm copper medal brought to a recent W.I.N.S. meeting had all of

the characteristics of Variety A. It may be theorized that Variety B is a product of later strikes of the medal.

Owners of this medal with any further variety details are urged to write to Editor, *The Shekel* so that a body of knowledge on this medallic group may be widely circulated.

VARIETY A

VARIETY B

<i>Serial No.</i>	0711	1443
<i>Rim</i>	Both obverse and reverse have definite raised rim.	Both obverse and reverse have rim flush with field and design (flat).
<i>Thickness</i>	5.2mm (Bottom of picture below) probably resulting from raised rim.	4.8mm
<i>Edge Inscription</i>	1. Larger than on B	1. Smaller than on A
(This difference noted by Morris Bram).		
	2. Hebrew name appears first, followed by shield (Emblem of State).	2. English language appears first, followed by Menorah; and then, Hebrew name (normal edge of all Official State Medals).
(This difference noted by Charles Morris).		
<i>Obverse design</i>	Letters <i>lamed</i> of the two Hebrew words <i>Shalom Bechelecha</i> (Peace within thy walls) run one into the other without a break.	The <i>lameds</i> have a small indentation graphically separating upper from lower <i>lamed</i> .
<i>Reverse design:</i>		
<i>Base of lion sculpture</i>	The bricks making up the base of the statue are clearly outlined (see photo).	Base is smooth without outline of bricks.

SOLIDUS COINS OF THE REIGN OF FOCUS FOUND NEAR THE RAMBAM HOSPITAL, HAIFA

by Eli Semmelman

Workers laying pipes in a ditch opened by a bulldozer on a sunny day in Haifa in June 1972 found a hoard of coins which they mistook to be of bronze. The hoard, 3000 to 4000 solid gold pieces, were in fine and extra fine condition. (*See The Shekel, Volume V, No. 2 for the first report on this startling discovery*).

The hoard consists of coins of the Emperor Maurice Tiberius (reign, 582-602) and his usurper, Focas (reign, 602-610) who slew the entire Tiberius family in order to become the successor to the throne. Focas was killed in 610 by Heraclius.

The typical solidus weighs 4.2 grams; some are heavier. A small number of the coins are of Maurice Tiberius. In one example, on the obverse, the Emperor is holding a cross in his right hand with these letters: *DN, MAVRG TIL, PP AUG*. On the reverse, Angel Victoria is holding a long cross with a Christ monogram on top. Written: *VICTORIA AUG* ending with a Greek C, the letter which indicates the mint, CONOB (*Constantinople*).

A few hundred of these coins have never been catalogued, including about 20 portraits.

No. 1 — This is one of the rarest coins in the hoard, a rare coin of Byzantium with Emperor Focas as Consul. He wears consular garments and holds the cross in his left hand. (*As Emperor he holds the cross in his right hand*). The reverse is identical with that of *No. 2*.

No. 2 — This coin is of a younger face than the face of the Consul. Both coins are from the same mint or region (the 5th). See the letter E at the end of the AUGU. This is a coin which does not appear in available catalogues.

No. 3 — Coin of the 2nd Region; in it the Emperor looks old. This same coin is in the *Dumbarton Oaks Collection at Harvard University*.

No. 4 — Coin of the 3rd Region. The reverse is *VICTORIA AUGU*. It ends with a Greek letter.

No. 5 — A thoughtful Focas. This coin is also from the 5th Region. It has a letter under the cross which Victoria holds. The word *AUGUSTA* on the reverse side of the coin ends with a barbaric letter of the 5th Region.

No. 6 — A young and lively face. This coin also is from the 5th Region.

No. 7 — Another face from the 5th Region.

No. 8 — A 7th Region letter is under the cross Victoria holds.

No. 9 — This coin has a different face and style from the 7th Region.

No. 10 — This coin has a young face from the 9th Region. On the reverse, Victoria obliterates *AUGU* with a Greek 9.

No. 11 — An older face appears from the 9th Region. There is a star near the left cheek of the Emperor. On the reverse side, there is a letter under Victoria's cross. This coin appears in the *Ratos Catalogue*, No. 1197.



TOP TO BOTTOM:

Coins No. 1-5

(See Text)

TOP TO BOTTOM:

Coins 6-10

(See Text)



TOP TO BOTTOM:

Coins 11-14

(See Text)

TOP THREE ROWS:

Coins 15-16-17

BOTTOM ROW:

Maurice Tiberius

No. 12 — Coin of the 10th Region. AUGUSTA ends with a Greek 10.

No. 13 — This an older face of the 10th Region.

No. 14 — There appears a different face from the 10th Region.

No. 15 — Still another face variety; the region has been obliterated.

No. 16 — There is another face variety; also with the region obliterated.

ated. On the reverse side there is a letter under the cross held by Victoria.

No. 17 — There is a different face variety.

There seem to be more than ten other varieties which could not be further identified. Future editions of *The Shekel* will publish new varieties as information is developed.

Photography: Mrs. Lea Lifshitz, Haifa

STAMPS? COINS?

(Can a Married Couple Collect Both —and Find Happiness?)

by Anne and Allan Greenberg

Stamps, who would collect stamps? They're just scraps of colored paper! Coins, who wants to collect coins? That's just a lump of metal. *Sound familiar?* We've heard it before, and we are sure that we'll hear similar statements in the future. When a husband is a long-time stamp collector, and his wife is an enthusiastic coin collector, the word is: *respect each other's hobby*. Fortunately for both of us, our hobbies focus on one country — *Israel*. Whether collecting Israeli stamps, coins or medals, one is afforded a chance to see great beauty, much the same as if one is viewing a painting or a piece of metal sculpture.

Israeli collecting offers a chance to compare how a theme was presented in stamps and coins. It also offers occasionally the presentation of a com-

mon design in the two different mediums.

The following is a list we've compiled of stamps and coins or medals that may help you in enjoying these art forms. We hope that you find the material complements each other, rather than always acting as a comparison.

From this list you can plainly see that the stamps were always first in coming out with a theme; then coins copied the idea.

Any one interested in Israeli stamps in the New Jersey area can contact the Society of Israel Philatelists, POB 1957, No. Brunswick, N. J. 08902. In other areas contact Dr. Al Friedberg, 31715 Vine St., Willowick, Ohio 44094.

Stamps (Reference numbers are from *Scott Postage Stamp Catalogue*)

- No. 1/9 Doar Ivri Coins
- 17/22 Second Coins (Mered)
- 38/43 Third Coins (Bar Kochba)
- 56/61 Fourth Coins
- 80/3 Fifth Coins
- 168/77 Provisional Issue
- 24 Hebrew University
- 26 Jerusalem
- 27 Negev
- 44 Tel Aviv
- 160 50th Anniversary of Tel Aviv
- 45 Independence Bonds
- 207 Decade of Israel Bonds
- 51 T. Herzl
- 86 T. Herzl
- 183 T. Herzl
- 55 Menorah
- 93 Independence Day
- 142 10th Anniversary
- 323/8 Israel Museum

Coins and Medals (Reference designations are from the IGCAM catalogue)

- 1960 Bar Kochba (M512/4)
- 1961 & 62 ½ Shekel (C112/3 & C118/9)
- 1971 Bank of Israel (Officially Commissioned Medal)
- 1973 10# Pidyon Haben
- 1965 Hebrew University OCM
- 1968 20th Anniversary (C143/5)
- 1969 Jerusalem the Knesset OCM
- 1971 Jerusalem the Knesset (60311-22)
- 1962 5# Development (C120/1)
- 1959 Tel Aviv (M508/9)
- 1965 State of Israel Bonds OCM
- 1960 Herzl Centenary (C107/9)
- 1958 5# 10th Anniversary (C101)
- 1958 1# Chanuka (C102)
- 1960 20# Herzl (C109)
- 1962 Weizmann (C122/3)
- 1963-7 1 Israel Pound Trade Coin
- 1963-73 ½ Israel Pound Trade Coin
- 1965 Israel Museum (M59212-59222)

- 65 ZOA
- 70/1 Weizmann
- 72 BILU
- 165/7 Jewish Settlements
- 245 Pioneers
- 79 Conquest of Desert
- 87 Festival
- 90 Rothschild
- 94/9 Youth Aliah
- 143 Jewish Youth
- 365 Independence Day
- 142 10th Anniversary
- 182 Atomic Reactor
- C44/5 Export Industries—Airmails
- 188 Szold
- 220/1 Heroes and Martyrs Day
- 292 Independence Day
- 311 Memorial Day
- 366 Memorial Day
- 446 Memorial Day
- 228 El Al
- 229 UJA
- 235/6 Stockade and Tower
- 242/4 Festival 1963
- 250 S.S. Shalom
- 264/6 Festival 1964
- 267 30 Years of Illegal Immigration
- 269/70 Chess Olympiad
- 272/4 Masada
- 276/91 Emblems of Towns
- 298/303 Festival 1965
- 312 Inauguration of Knesset Building
- 323/8 Israel Museum
- 337/9 Ancient Ports (Tabs)
- 345/7 Victory
- 353/4 Balfour Declaration
- 364 Ghetto Uprising
- 377 International Games for the Paralysed
- 378/80 Ports Of Israel
- 398 Weizmann Institute
- 417/8 Mikve Israel
- 422 Keren Hayesod
- 423 Israel Aircraft Industries
- 431 WIZO
- 435 Histadrut
- 447/50a Gates of Jerusalem
- 488/91a Gates of Jerusalem
- 487 'Let My People Go'
- 501 25th Anniversary
- 502/4 Chanukah Lamps
- 1963 ZOA Convention (M557)
- 1968 ZOA OCM
- 1962 Weizmann (C122/3)
- 1959 1# Degania (C105/6)
- 1963 First Settlers Year (M550-60)
- 1962 5# Development (C120/1)
- 1966 American Jewish Congress (M540)
- 1966 Rothschild (59311-33)
- 1959 5# Ingathering (C103/4)
- 1969 El Al (59811-33)
- 1966 Sinai Campaign 10th Anniv. (59411-22)
- 1967 Victory (C140/2)
- 1958 10th Anniversary (C101)
- 1971 Science-Based Industries (C155/7)
- 1960 Szold Centenary (C110/1)
- 1959/62 Valour
- 1961 1# 'and He Gave Up His Life In Battle' (Heroism) (C116/7)
- 1963 Remembrance Day OCM
- 1965 Yad Va'Shem OCM
- 1969 El Al (59811-33)
- 1962 UJA 25th Anniversary (M547/a)
- 1963 Tower and Stockade (M552)
- 1963 Israel Festival (M558)
- 1964 S.S. Shalom (M565/7)
- 1964 Israel Festival OCM
- 1964 30th Anniversary First Immigrant Blockade-Runners (M571/3)
- 1964 16th Chess Olympics (M576)
- 1964/5 Masada (M577-81)
- 1965/6 Coin-Medals Featuring Historical Cities of Israel (58312-59133)
- 1965 Israel Festival OCM
- 1965 5# 17th Anniversary (C134/5)
- 1971 Jerusalem the Knesset (60311-22)
- 1964 5# 16th Anniversary (C130/1)
- 1965 Israel Museum (59212-22)
- 1965 Acre (58412-22), Caesarea (58812-22) and Jaffa (58912-22)
- (Part of the Historical Cities Medals)
- 1967 Victory (C140/2)
- 1967 The Balfour Declaration (59711-33)
- 1963 Ghetto Uprisings 20th Anniversary (M550/1)
- 1968 International Stoke-Mandeville Games OCM
- 1957 5# Port of Eilat (C138/9)
- 1966 Sinai Campaign 10th Anniversary (59411-22)
- 1966 Asdod Port OCM
- 1971 Rehovot-Weizmann Institute (60111-22)
- 1971 Mikve Israel Centenary (C151/2)
- 1970 Keren Hayesod United Israel Appeal Jubilee (60011-33)
- 1972 Israel Aircraft Industry and Civil Aviation (C163/4)
- 1970 WIZO Jubilee OCM
- 1964 Congress of the Int'l Federation of Commercial Clerical and Technical Employees (M574)
- 1968 20th Anniversary (C143/5)
- 1969 Jerusalem OCM
- 1971 'Let My People Go' (C158/60)
- 1973 25th Anniversary Coins
- 1973 25th Anniversary Medals
- 1962 1# Italian Chanuka Lamp (C124/5)
- 1963 1# North African Chanuka Lamp (C128/9)
- 1972 5# Russian Chanuka Lamp

The ALEPH BETH Page

...Dedicated to the Beginner

by Edward Janis



Q. In the recent IGCAM General Catalog, I do not see any reference to the type of edge that is on the Gold Jerusalem 100 IL 20th Anniversary coin. I note that mine has a milled edge. The other gold commemorative that I own is the Shalom Gold 100 IL of 1969. This has a plain edge like the silver piece of the same year celebrating the State of Israel's 21st anniversary. Is the milling normal with the gold 100 IL Jerusalem piece? Is the gold Shalom piece missing its milled edge? Which piece is correct? G. H. J., Montreal, Canada.

A. Both are "correct". There is no standardization as to the edge device on the gold coins of Israel. On all the issues the edges are milled except the Shalom which is smooth and the Victory which has an incused inscription. However, I suggest that you look at your Shalom silver commemorative of 1969 again. It does not have a smooth edge. By smooth or unmilled edge we also mean an edge that is devoid of any raised or incused lettering, design or pattern. The edge on the Shalom silver piece has on its edge the incused inscription, "Twenty-First Year of the State of Israel" in Hebrew.

Q. Now that Golda Meir is no longer Premier, why doesn't the Government of Israel strike an official medal with her portrait in tribute for her long, dedicated and superhuman service? H. D., Brooklyn, N. Y.

A. No doubt many have thought about it. However, in accordance with Jewish tradition, the Bank of Israel and the Israel Government Coins and

Medals Corporation does not issue coins or medals bearing portraits of living Israel personalities.

Q. How can I tell if a medal is an official State Medal of Israel or one of private issue?

A. Incused on the edge on either side of the emblem of the State of Israel are the words "State of Israel" in English and in Hebrew. The larger silver medals are in addition, usually marked with "Sterling .935" in English; and Kesef (Silver) in Hebrew, plus a serial number. The silver issues have these edge devices starting with the Medal of Liberation 2nd Issue in 1961 and on the bronze medals intermittently starting in 1964 with "Immigrant Blockade Runners"; and finally appearing on all State medals in 1965 starting with the "Israel Museum".

Q. On a recent trip to Israel I picked up a copper coin on which I can make out the letters COL PTOL on the back and a man's bust facing to the right on the front of the coin. Is this really from Israel?

R. M., Philadelphia, Penn.

A. It certainly is. I can't tell you under which Roman emperor that the bronze (not copper) was struck under without examination but COL PTOL is the Latin abbreviation of COLONIA PTOLEMAIS which appeared on most of the city coins that were struck in the Roman colony which is today known as Akko, a city in modern Israel located in the northern shore of the Bay of Haifa.

A SIMPLIFIED METHODOLOGY FOR GRADING & EVALUATING PAPER MONEY

INTRODUCTION

Several excellent articles have been written on grading and evaluating paper money but this short article states the best methods available in both areas and simplifies the techniques under one article for the Collector/Investor whose interest lies in the collecting of banknotes and paper money.

I consider the banknotes of Israel to be an integral part of Collecting along with the Pruta and Agora coins. Although the commemoratives may be considered a better short term potential investment, I feel that the banknotes will be more rewarding for there are no large hoards of banknotes which are controlled by any one dealer or individual. This shall always insure a stable market.

Banknotes in crisp uncirculative condition continue their strong growth in popularity which keeps dealers very busy looking for replacement supplies.

A sound course of action for today's Collector/Investor is to try and collect crisp uncirculated specimens, but if this is not available, seek the next best grades available. Many dealers list paper money in two conditions . . . (CU) Crisp Uncirculated or (Ave. Cir) Average Circulated. This leaves a big void in grading levels which brings me to my article on how to grade and evaluate paper money.

There is no mystery to grading paper money — all that is required is a common sense approach to grading and evaluating.

I will briefly discuss this subject using techniques already developed by others in the field of numismatics. The subject material shall be divided into two major separate topics dealing with grading and evaluation paper money.

GRADING PAPER MONEY

Using the Sandrock/Long Grading Matrix, Fig. 1, as a guideline we can very easily determine how to grade paper money by the conditioning of the paper characteristics as they relate to their respective grading levels. The heavy outlined area within the matrix are the grading levels most desired, for when you move out of

by Herbert J. Kwart

(All Rights Reserved)

this select area you are accepting notes that are less acceptable and approaching rag conditions, for their evaluation will be at lower levels. The only exception to this criteria would be notes rated rare in issue or availability.

I shall very simply discuss these grading levels as the characteristics of the paper conditions.

- A. *Crisp Uncirculated* paper money is fresh and crisp with no folds or tears and the design is intact.
- B. *About Uncirculated* — A lightly vertical fold through the center, crisp and gives the appearance of being uncirculated.
- C. *Extremely Fine* — Is a bill that has been folded in half enough times so that the centerfold is easily defined, but is still new-looking and crisp.
- D. *Very Fine* — The bill has circulated a little longer and has been folded twice—once in half as before, and then again in half vertically, so when it is unfolded it has three spaced vertical folds. It still may be crisp, but the centerfold is easily defined, and now has a light fold on either side. The note may also show some signs of faint wear, but there are not stains or edge tears. If it were not for the three centerfolds and some loss of crispness the note would look like new.
- E. *Fine* — The bill has three defined vertical folds and has been folded horizontally. It is beginning to show other signs of circu-

SANDROCK/LONG GRADING MATRIX (1)

PAPER CHARACTERISTICS	CU	AU	XF	VF	F	VG	G	Fr	Pr
Like new: clean & crisp	X	X							
Barely noticeable vertical centerfold		X							
Noticeable light vertical centerfold			X						
Some crispness			X	X					
Three light vertical folds				X					
Faint light smudges or dirt				X	X				
Noticeable smudges or dirt beginning					X				
Three vertical folds or creases					X				
Light horizontal fold					X				
Edge tears, do not enter design						X			
A little dirty						X			
Three heavy vertical creases						X	X		
Horizontal crease						X	X		
Noticeable fraying of edges						X	X		
Missing corner, not part of design							X		
Heavy dirt or staining							X	X	
Creases wear away bits of design							X	X	
Small edge tears enter design							X	X	
Holes worn through in the creases								X	X
Large tears into design								X	X
Missing corner with part of design								X	X
Limp, dirty								X	X
Tattered, ragged, filthy									X
Repaired to prevent falling apart									X
No longer attributable									X

Fig. 1

lation, maybe smudges or dirt, but its overall condition is clean looking. A few small edge tears and the start of edge fraying is beginning to appear, but in general the edge is fairly sharp and intact.

- F. *Very Good Condition* — The bill is well worn. The three vertical folds are well defined with heavy creases, but the design in the creases is still intact. The horizontal fold is well defined. There are edge tears and frays are discernible, but do not reach into

the design. The bill is a little dirty, but not filthy and could be stained.

- G. *Good Condition* — The bill is looking ragged and bits of the design are wearing away at the creases, and the edge tears and fraying may enter the design. A small corner may be torn off, but does not enter the design. This note could have stains and or an entry of initials in ink.
- H. *Fair Condition* — The bill is generally limp because of holes worn through its creases. Large tears

**PAPER MONEY CHART FOR
GRADING VALUES OF NOTES (2)**

	100% to 95%	
	Unc to EF	
	85% to 70%	
	VF to F	
	70% to 50%	
	VG to G	
	50% to 0%	
	Poor to Valueless	

Fig. 2

may enter the design and a corner missing. Stains, tears, holes and filth make this an undesirable piece, but it is still characteristic of type, date and series.

- I. **Poor Condition** — A note may not be more than a filthy rag, it may have been repaired to prevent it from falling apart. Any bill that cannot be characterized should be considered poor.

GRADING VALUES OF NOTES

How does one grade paper money, and what is the relation to value?

A rule-of-thumb valuation chart, paper money chart for grading values of notes, Fig. 2, has been devised and sets the methodology for assuring its simplicity. The chart indicates bank fresh (uncirculated) note at 100% to 95%, allowing for a bent corner. A center fold brings it to 85%, to dogearred centerfold with wear, 70%. Double folds start at 70%, to 50%, with wear. With tears and folds, notes run in value from 50% to valueless condition with tears, holes and folds.

For a given set of examples for condition versus value, let's say that a 100% note condition might be worth \$100; in 50 percent \$50. For more scarce notes, proofs, or specimens, the 100% note might be worth \$1,000 and at 50 percent \$500. For common notes the value could include 100 percent, \$1.00 and 50 percent, 10 cents.

- (1) "Common Sense Approach To Grading," R. Long, Numismatist, Jan. 1973.
- (2) "Methodology," devised by M. Hoffman, Schwabach, Germany.

**SOCIETY OF YOUNG ISRAELITE
FRIENDS OF THE POOR
DISTRIBUTION TOKEN**

During the 19th century and up to World War II, most European Jewish communities had charitable societies for the distribution of food to the needy. In many cases, tokens were used to identify the recipient. These tokens were of various forms and sizes and in some cases bore an identification number.

The above token, with identification No. 130, is from Germany or Austria. It bears a 2-line German inscription curved around: VEREIN DER JUNGEN ISRAEL. ARMEN-FREUNDE / ZUR VERTEILUNG VON BROT & SUPPE (Society of Young Israel. Friends of the Poor / for Distribution of Bread & Soup). The



piece is uniface, struck on brass 60mm in diameter, 1mm thick and weighs 35.57 grams.

*From the Collection
of Harry Flower, Chicago*

FIVE LIVRES TURQUES

BANQUE IMPERIALE OTTOMAN

by Samuel Lachman, Haifa

The *Banque Impériale Ottomane* was founded in 1863, when Ahmed Muhtar I'tisami Pasha was Finance Minister. This was laid down in the law of 16 Sha'ban 1279 (6 February 1863)¹. The bank was authorized to issue banknotes. Such notes were first issued between A. H. 1293 and 1295 (1876 - 77).

The Twentieth Century issues of the bank were in the denominations of LT. 100, 50, 10, 5, 2, 1. 194,000 banknotes in the amount of LT. were in circulation at the end of 1911². This indicates that the notes were already in circulation in this century before World War I. On the other hand Cüneyt Ölçer³ indicates that the authority was given on 13 April 1914. Notes of one lira and half lira are supposed to have been issued in August 1914⁴. The notes were repayable in gold. They were not in general circulation, but in view of their gold convertibility, were used in large business transactions. The total amount of notes issued was LT. 6,583,094. They were finally withdrawn at the end of March 1948. An amount of LT.105,455 was still outstanding at that date.

The LT.1 note illustrated by Sylvia Haffner is dated Shawal 1332 (September 1914)⁵. Her listing is based on Arnold Keller⁶, who stated that the earliest notes known to him were dated Eylul 1331 (September 1915). The

note dated Shawal 1332, bears a Moslem date, while the note of Eylul 1331 as well as the note described below are dated according to the Turkish Civil Calendar.

Here is a LT.5 noted dated 1st Muharrem 1326 (13 March 1910). The size of the note is 210 x 121 mm. It is printed on granite paper. *Obverse*: Prussian blue, background light green and rose. *Reverse*: Sepia. At top is the tughra of Sultan Mehmed V with the word "Reshad" at right. Below in Turkish: *devlet-i aliye Osmaniye bankasi (Banque Impériale Ottomane)*. The next line reads: *Kostantiniye sene 1326 bir muharrem (Constantinople 1st Muharrem 1326)*.

The central inscription means: (First line) "*This note when presented will always be paid in cash at its equivalent in gold.*" (Second line) "*Five Meyidiye 100 guruh coins.*" Above the signatures are the titles of the officials in ornamental form: *Cashier — Minister — Principal Member of the Board*. The reverse inscription is identical with the second line of the obverse. The printers are: *Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London*.

The writer would welcome any information sent to him at *The Shekel* about other denominations or dates of the notes of the *Banque Impériale Ottomane*.

(1) Mehmed Zeki Pâkalın. *Tanzimat Maliye Nazırları*. Istanbul 1939. p.132 (in Turkish).
 (2) Brockhaus. *Kleines Konversationslexikon*. Leipzig 1914.
 (3) Cüneyt Ölçer. 50 Yılın Türk Kagit Para. Istanbul 1973. (In Turkish with English introduction).

(4) Ekrem Kolerkilic. *Osmanlı İmparatorlugunda Para*. Ankara 1958. p.160 (in Turkish).
 (5) Sylvia Haffner. *The History of Modern Israel's Money 1917-1970*. Tarzana, Calif. 1970. p.181.
 (6) Arnold Keller. *Das Papiergeld des Ersten Weltkrieges*. Berlin-Wittenau 1957. vol. II, p.102.



LT 5 Note dated in the Ottoman Empire as 1st Muharrem 1326 (13 March 1910) printed on granite paper, 210 x 121mm.



Reverse of the 1910 Livres Turques. The notes were repayable in gold.

BANK OF ISRAEL EXHIBIT OF "PAST AND PRESENT"

HAIFA. — An exhibition of the "Past and Present in the Coins of Eretz Israel," from the collection of the Bank of Israel (one of the largest in the world) and the Israel Coins and Medals Corporation, opened in October at the National Maritime Museum.

"Coins are an important source for study of the history of the Jewish people in its homeland," says Maritime Museum director Arye Ben-Elie. "Coins minted here begin in the Persian period, in the fourth century B.C.E. (they are known as "Yehud" coins)," he noted.

The principal issues are from the Hasmonean Dynasty, the Herodian period, the first Jewish war against Rome (66-70 C.E.), the Roman Procurators, the second Jewish war (the Bar Kochba Revolt, 132-135 C.E.)

and the city-states of Eretz Israel.

"The various motifs and symbols on the coins, especially the inscriptions (many written in the ancient Hebrew alphabet) tell us much about Israel during the era of the Second Temple and afterwards — about the minting authorities, such as the High Priest, the King, the Roman Emperor, the "Nassi" (prince) or the city; and about Jewish national aspirations, as expressed in inscriptions such as "to the redemption of Zion," "to the freedom of Jerusalem," "Jerusalem the Holy" and "Year One after the Redemption of Israel," says Mr. Ben-Elie.

The coins and medals of today reflect historical and stylistic continuity and also fit the aspirations of the Jewish People today, he added.

19th CENTURY SYNAGOGUE OF COLOGNE MEDAL FOUND

By Albert J. Schmeidler



While browsing through an antique shop in New York, a fortunate discovery of an apparently rare medal commemorating the dedication of the Cologne Synagogue in 1861 occurred because of the striking and unusual beauty of the work on this medal.

The Cologne Synagogue was destroyed on *Kristal Night*, November 10, 1938, together with hundreds of other synagogues, thousands of places of Jewish business, and untold numbers of Jewish homes. Just as so many Jewish books, religious articles, and other items of Jewish life were destroyed or otherwise lost, it may be concluded that this particular medal too has become rare. As is well-known, prior to World War II, Cologne was a major center of Jewish life and learning in western Europe.

A few years ago, a new medal commemorating the dedication of the new Cologne Synagogue was issued, possibly by a private agency. Should any reader of *The Shekel* have any knowledge of this later Cologne dedicatory medal, such information would add greatly to the total picture of the Jewish community in Cologne.

The following is a description of the 1861 Cologne Medal.

OBVERSE: the Facade of the Cologne Synagogue.

The inscription around the side and top edges reads (in German) "*Synagoge Zu Coeln Eingeweiht an 29 August 1861.*"

(Translation: Synagogue of Cologne Consecrated on 29th of August, 1861.)

On the bottom of the obverse, below the facade is inscribed:

E. F. Zwirner Archit. (name of architect)

Reverse: A deep concave relief showing in minute detail the interior of this beautiful House of Worship with two Hebrew inscriptions. The art work on this side of the medal is so extraordinary that when one looks at it closely, one actually gets the feeling of standing inside this Synagogue and being able to see around and behind the columns on the right and even up into the dome. In addition, when looking closely, besides seeing the obvious features, one can see details of designs on the floor and around the archways.

The Hebrew inscription on the right side reads (transliterated): *Vayiven Avraham Affenheim et Beth Hashem Lekehal Irath Kolonya.* (Translation: And Abraham Affenheim (presumably the major benefactor of the 'Building Fund') Built the House of the Lord for the Congregation of the City of Cologne.)

The Hebrew inscription on the left side reads (transliterated): *Vayechanchu Oto Kaf Gimel Ellul Ha Tav Resh Kaf Aleph-Lamedh Beth Ayin-Zochrah Lo Elokiim Letova.*

(Translation: And They Consecrated it on 23 Ellul 5621, (Lamedh Beth Ayin—are letters of abbreviation for Lebriath Olam) in the Creation of the World, and the Lord Should Remember it for (the) Good.)

On the bottom, below the Interior design, appears the name J. Weiner F., presumably, designer of this medal.

Metal:	Bronze
Diameter:	59 mm
Thickness:	6 mm



MINTING ERROR OF A

25 AGORA 1974

Haiifa—This coin of 25 agoroth was found in a bag of 400 pieces of 25 agoroth of 1974. It has a diameter of a 5 agoroth piece and its weight is exactly that of a 5 agoroth piece.

It is believed that a blank of 5 agoroth was accidentally mixed with blanks of planned 25 agoroth pieces. It is the first mint error of this type found by Eli Semmelman, an active Israeli numismatist and a frequent contributor to *The Shekel*.

MEDAL HONORS

JOSEPH POPER LYNKENS:

ENGINEER, SOCIOLOGIST



Engineer and Austrian sociologist, born in 1838, died in 1921.

His inventions in the field of electronics and aeronautics preceded and hinted at revolutionary discoveries of the 20th century on the Quantum Theory, Relativity Theory, and psychanalysis.

His fear of the technical development forced him to abandon the technical sciences and he devoted himself thereafter to improve man's social relations. He spread his ideas and proposed methods to avoid wars, and to secure a minimum income per family to assure the existence of human beings. It was his idea also to reform the criminal law in the direction of moral education.

Pogroms in Russia awakened his Jewish conscience and brought him close to Zionism.

This is the medal minted to commemorate the 80th anniversary of Poper Lynkeus. The medal is of white metal. The designer is A. Taglang, Vienna.

—E. Semmelman



BEN-GURION COMMEMORATIVE COIN SET

Jerusalem: "A commemorative coin, dedicated to Israel's first Prime Minister, David Ben-Gurion, will be issued in early December" according to an announcement made here by the Director-General of the IGCAM, Mr. Yitzhak Avni.

"Recognized as one of the most remarkable statesmen and personalities of this century, David Ben-Gurion earned respect and admiration throughout the world. We know that the interest in this new coin will reach beyond numismatic circles" continued Mr. Avni, stating the following details:

Mintage figures were set as follows:

1. Gold - 53,500 coins. Nominal value 1L 500, diameter 35 millimeters, weight 28 grams, 900/1000. This is the largest gold coin in monetary value, diameter and weight ever issued by the Bank of Israel.
2. Silver - Nominal value IL 25, diameter 37mm, 26 grams silver 935/1000. The BU of which 175,000 coins will be struck, will bear a tiny Star of David mintmark and have a smooth edge. The *proof* edition will have a milled-edge and bear the mintmark of the Hebrew letter 'mem'.

The quantity to be minted will be 75,000. The gold and silver proof coins will be minted at the Swiss Federal Mint in Berne, and the BU's at the Israel Government Mint in Jerusalem.

In honor of Ben-Gurion, a very special and most attractive leather case containing all three varieties, with numismatic descriptions.

Description

OBVERSE: Around the upper rim, "FIVE HUNDRED (or) TWENTY FIVE ISRAELI LIROT", inscribed in Hebrew. Around the lower rim "ISRAEL" in English, Hebrew and Arabic, as well as the year 1974-5735 in Hebrew and English. The emblem of Israel is in the center with the word 'ISRAEL' in Hebrew under it.

REVERSE: The portrait of David Ben-Gurion, within an incuse rectangle with rounded angles in the upper right. The emblem of Israel is inscribed at the bottom rim in the center. The name "DAVID BEN-GURION" in Hebrew and English is at its left; the year of his birth and death 1886-1973 and in Hebrew letters 5647-5734 are inscribed to its right.

This new commemorative silver coin will be offered in the United States and Canada to pre-April 1974 subscribers only.

A LETTER FROM YITZHAK AVNI — JERUSALEM

Mr. Morris Bram, President
American Israel Numismatic Association, Inc.
New York, N. Y. 10008

Dear Morris,

I received numerous letters from individual subscribers and Israel Numismatic Societies complaining about the increase of prices for our silver commemorative coins.

The common denominator of all these orders is not only the price, but also the change of the face value, which in their opinion is unwarranted.

Some collectors feel that in view of the unstable economy and the high prices, our hobby may suffer, and be the victim of loss of interest.

I would therefore like, very briefly, to give you our version, which made the change in the nominal value and price necessary.

- 1) Our commemorative silver coins have a silver content of 90% and in the Ben Gurion issue, a 93.5%.
- 2) One coin, plus production expenses, costs the Bank of Israel over IL 20.00. It was therefore impossible to retain the nominal value of IL 10.00, when the actual cost is twice as much.
- 3) Consequently, the Bank of Israel authorities decided on a new face value of IL 25.00.
- 4) Should we accept the version of those who criticize our activities and issue a silver commemorative coin of IL 10.00, in order to maintain our standard procedure of 90% silver, the weight of such a coin would have been no more than 10-12 grams, and would have the diameter of a Kennedy \$0.50 coin.
- 5) Our price policy has been based for as long as I can remember on a very simple principle — IL 10.00 for US\$ 1.00, meaning a BU commemorative of IL 25.00 for US\$25.00.
- 6) The proof edition of any issue is double the price of BU, i.e. 8 times over face value. The State of Israel has been actively engaged in numismatics for no more than 15 years, in comparison to 125 years of the United States of America.
In your country, the U.S. Federal Mint issued the Eisenhower commemorative and these coins, which have a silver content of 40% only, and which were minted in the millions, are being sold for: BU — 3 times over face value, proof — 10 times over face value.
- 7) Now, if you compare Israeli and American policy, and taking into consideration the very limited mintage figures of Israel vis-à-vis the millions minted by the U.S. Federal Mint, you must realize that we do not exaggerate.
- 8) We have today close to 100,000 subscribers universally, of which 65,000 are Israelis. Economic conditions in Israel are by all means worse than those in the USA, yet I can count on one similar complaints received from Israelis or from other collectors outside the USA. Believe me, it is much more difficult for an average Israeli to purchase a BU and a proof coin for IL 300.00, which is 20% of his net monthly income, than \$75.00 (\$25.00 + \$50.00) for an average American, who by comparison earns much more.
- 9) We have 4 commemorative issues per annum: Independence Day, Pidyon Haben, Hannuka and a mint set. Based on the new nominal values, the total cost for 3 BUs, 3 Proofs, 1 mint set, comes "annually" to \$190.00.
"Divided by 12 — \$16.00 per month."

So, if anybody wants to collect all Israeli commemorative coins, it is only necessary to to spend \$16.00 a month, knowing by past performance that Israeli coins appreciate tremendously in a short period.

I think that I have made our point of view very clear, and beg of you to submit a copy of this letter to all Presidents of our existing and functioning numismatic societies throughout the U. S. A.

Should an individual collector, either of AINA or of the Corporation, wish to receive an explanation as to the increase of face value and price, please forward to him a copy of this letter.

With best regards,
YITZHAK AVNI



Original
sketch
as
approved
contained
spelling
error.

IGCMC NEW YEAR TOKEN STRUCK IN ERROR

by Sylvia Haffner

Upon the occasion of the Jewish New Year, in the year 5724 (1964), The Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation, sent to each subscriber an encased One Agora. This "Season's Greetings" medal was the first of a series which has continued annually since. The Jewish New Year occurs in September or October and the medals are sent out at that time before the Civil New Year.

In the year 5725 (1965), the Corporation issued a numismatic book-mark as the "Season's Greetings," many varieties exist. In the year 5726 (1966); the Corporation issued a 30 mm. cupro-nickel medal and have continued to issue a similar medal each year. The motif of each medal is changed annually and is sent in a small envelope to subscribers all over the world which usually reads, "A Token of Our Good Wishes."

The "Season's Greetings" are limited in quantities to the number of subscribers and are not available after their annual distribution by the Corporation. They have now acquired a market value as new subscribers come into the fold and wish to have a complete set.

In the year 5735 (1975), the Corporation again prepared to send their "Season's Greetings" to their subscribers in the form of a 30mm. cupro-nickel medal. New designs were submitted and the design of Zvi Grundman was selected. (See photograph of drawing above). The dies were made by Moshe Nov and the medal was struck at the Government Mint in Jerusalem.

After several thousand medals were struck and mailed to the Israeli subscriber, someone noticed that the word "Greetings" was spelled "GREAT-



30mm New Year Token (5735-1975) repeats spelling error.

INGS!" If you will note the original drawing also has the word misspelled! The error was not caught until the medals were in production! At this time, The Director-General of the Corporation, Mr. Yitzzhak Avni, called a halt to the production and to the mailing out of the medals. It is not known at this time how many medals were sent out to the subscriber in Israel but the balance of the error medal will be destroyed. As an Israeli subscriber, I noticed several articles in the Jerusalem Post advising the subscriber "that the tokens would be late in delivery this year and to please be patient."

To be perfectly honest about it, I received my specimen in the mail and made a photograph of it, as I do all of the material in my collection, examined it and noted they had used a new format but DID NOT notice the misspelling!

It seems, that Mr. Israel Zedaka, is most chagrined at approving the submitted drawing without catching the misspelled word. But, if I, an American also missed the spelling of "Greetings" who is to point a finger at an Israeli whose native tongue is Hebrew?

The whole issue is currently being restructed at the Government Mint in Jerusalem and the subscribers will eventually be sent their "Season's Greetings" (*Whoops! There it goes again!*) So be patient, your gift will arrive eventually, perhaps in time for the Civil New Year!



ISRAEL DEFENSE FORCES PRESENTATION MEDAL TO UNITED STATES GALAXIES CREWS OCTOBER 1971

This Israel Army medal was presented to the crew members of the *U. S. Galaxies* who flew equipment to Israel after the start of the *Yom Kippur War*. It is a regular stock Israel Army medal with a special inscription for this special occasion.

The medal features the emblem of the Israel Army (Tzahal), a sword and olive branch on a Star of David; just below on a curved ribbon is the Hebrew inscription TSEVA HAG-ANA LEISRAEL (Defence Army of Israel). Around the edge is a wreath of olive leaves.

This presentation piece is struck in white metal, 30mm in diameter and is uniface. For this special event, the reverse has the 5-line engraved inscription WITH APPRECIATION / MIN. OF DEF. / I. D. F. / ISRAEL / OCT. 73.

*From the Collection
of Harry Flower, Chicago*

AINA ANNUAL ISRAEL STUDY TOUR

MARCH 4-18, 1975

SEVENTH ANNUAL STUDY TOUR

- Round trip jet transportation via EL AL New York/Tel Aviv/New York
- Round trip transfer service between airport and hotel
- Porterage of luggage at the airport and hotel
- Accommodations in twin-bedded rooms with private bath

- Full Israeli breakfast and dinner daily
- Extensive sightseeing program
- Services of an English speaking guide
- All entrance fees and tips
- Gratuities for services provided
- Tour Escort
- Special meetings with Numismatists

\$1185.00 per person basis double occupancy

\$100.00 deposit per person.

HIGHLIGHT MOMENTS OF AINA EVENTS AT RECEPTION TO HONOR SANBAR



R. to L.: Dr. Eliezer Sheffer, Director General, Bank of Israel; The Hon. Moshe Sanbar, Governor of the Bank of Israel; Mr. Morris Bram, President, AINA; and Mr. N. H. Hacohen, of the IGCNC.



L. to R.: N. H. Hacohen, ICGAM; Philip Sperber, Westchester INS; Nat Sobel, Brooklyn INS; Al Yatkowitz, NY INS; Moe Weinschel, Queens INS; and Morris Bram, President AINA.

SANBAR HONORED AT AINA RECEPTION

New York, N. Y., November 11th. Holding a plaque inscribed: *A.I.N.A. honors the honorable Moshe Sanbar, Governor of the Bank of Israel as A.I.N.A. Member No. 5000.*

The distinguished guest was hosted

at a reception given by Mr. Morris Bram, President of A.I.N.A. Over 200 collectors of Israel coins attended, celebrating a highlight in A.I.N.A.'s brief history.

WEEKEND MICHIGAN SEMINAR ATTRACTS LARGE AUDIENCE AND PRESENTS ISRAEL NUMISMATIC EXPERTS

"*Operation Huge Success*" would be the best way to describe the events that took place at the *I.N.S. Seminar* held in the Detroit area on October 18, 19, 20. Over 100 participants registered for the affair which brought together I.N.S. members and their families from the New York area, Cleveland, Columbus, Chicago, Toronto, London Ontario, Houston and Detroit.

The affair began Friday evening with a cocktail reception and welcoming get-together. It was a pleasant opportunity to renew old acquaintances and to make new friends.

Saturday morning was devoted to a series of lectures and silver programs,



Left to right: Nahum Hacohen, North American Director of IGCNC New York; Sidney Bluestone, Founding President of INS of Michigan and AINA Board Member; Morris Bram, President of AINA; Dr. Burton J. Zack, President of INS of Michigan; Jack H. Schwartz, Special Projects Chairman of INS of Michigan and Seminar Coordinator.

which included Sanford Brown (President of the I.N.S. of Cleveland) who presented a talk on "*Reflections of the Yom Kippur War*" which included a slide presentation of various Israel Defense Forces' military pins, insignias and pendants. Mr. Stan Yulish of Cleveland described and showed on slides his "*Best of Show*" award-winning exhibit, "*A Profile of the Interim Period*". This was a display of pre-Israel coins and currency.

The morning session was concluded with an address by Dr. R. P. Nielsen of Nielsen-Porter, Inc., Houston, Texas; his topic "*Research in Israel Numismatics*."

The early afternoon was occupied by an Israeli and Judaica Auction consisting of 182 lots of various material ranging from uncirculated and proof IL 5 and IL 10 pieces to year sets, medals, currency and tokens. Mr. John Reineri, a club member, acted as auctioneer and he reports that 90% of all material was sold after highly competitive bidding.

Highlight of the afternoon session was an address given by Dr. Yaakov Meshorer, Numismatic Curator of the *Israel Museum*. His talk, "*Importance of Jewish Coins to Research Jewish History*" kept a captive audience, attentive and spellbound for 2½-hours. Among the audience were the following distinguished guests: Mr. George Hatie, Vice President to A.N.A.; Mr. F. A. "Tom" Jones, President of the Michigan State Numismatic Society;



Dr. "Burt" Zack, President of I.N.S. of Michigan (right) is shown presenting a Special Certificate of Appreciation to Dr. Yaacov Mesrorer (left). Dr. Mesrorer is Numismatic Curator of The Israel Museum and spoke to the seminar on the "Importance of Jewish Coins To Research Jewish History."

and representing the *Society of Israel Philatelists* was Mr. Rob Gordon, president of the local chapter.

The *Seminar Dinner* was held Saturday evening, following a cocktail party. Guest speakers were Nahum Hachohen and Morris Bram, who brought the audience up-to-date on political and numismatic events in Israel. Also discussed was a broad outline of forthcoming programs and events, and new numismatic releases planned by A.I.N.A. Of great importance was the announcement that the I.N.S. of Cleveland, under the supervision of Mr. Stan Yulish, would be producing a series of slide lecture programs to be made available through A.I.N.A. to member I.N.S. chapters.

During the course of the evening a special "Certificate of Appreciation" was presented to each guest who had presented a lecture, slide program or had exhibited a display. All those attending the dinner were presented with a 'goody' bag made up of numerous gifts, tokens and favors as a reminder of the Seminar. A free drawing of Israel coins and medals kept the audi-

ence looking for lucky numbers on their tickets.

The evening's entertainment was brightened by an interlude of Israeli folk dancers; background music was provided by the world famous tamborinist "Moisha" Bram! A letter of greetings was read from Yitzhak Avni, Director-General of the *Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation*, who sent his regards and best wishes to everyone in attendance.



An elongated coin honoring the recent Great Lakes Seminar hosted by INS of Michigan was rolled on an Israeli five-agarot and on an American Lincoln cent. A limited issue of 1,000 elongated coins were issued. Specimens of either coin are still available at 50c each, plus a case, by writing to INS of Michigan c/o 23450 Scotia,, Oak Park, Michigan 48237.

Special thanks was extended to Mr. Jacob Hennenberg of the I.N.S. of Cleveland, who designed and created the special insignia on the elongated coin which commemorates the 26th Anniversary of the State of Israel and honors the *Second I.N.S. Great Lakes Seminar*. Special thanks was also given to those members who made available the prize winning displays:

- Harry Flower — I.N.S. of Illinois:
"Medals Honoring Albert Einstein"
- Syd Bluestone — I.N.S. of Michigan:
"Commemorative Coins of Israel"
- Art Leff — I.N.S. of Michigan:
"The Twelve Tribes of Israel"
- Jack H. Schwartz — I.N.S. of Michigan:
"A Selection of Judaica Medals & Tokens"

(Continued)

Sunday morning was taken up with an impromptu question and answer period and informal discussions amongst various members. Stan Yulish conducted a short form to a youth group that had indicated an interest in Israel numismatics. Sunday afternoon saw a successful bourse, which was open to the general public and included 16 dealers who offered coins, medals and currency—American, Foreign and Judaic material, ranging from “junk” box coins to gold.

Thanks must be given to many of the club members and their wives whose efforts, time and personal expense helped to fulfill this dream.

Tentative plans are now underway to hold the next Seminar in Toronto, Ontario and for Chicago to host the Seminar in 1976.

ANCIENT GALILEAN CITY UNCOVERED

Safad, Israel — Remains said to match the description in Josephus (*Life*, 188, *Wars* 2:573) of the ancient Jewish city of Merot have been revealed in the recently ended third season of excavations at Merom, near this northern Israeli city.

The dig, conducted by 90 American and other volunteers and organized by George Washington University, turned with many journal articles to his credit, up the foundations of a bastion and an ancient synagogue, plus farm implements, candles, glass, a coinboard and pottery dating from the time of the Second Temple.

Of the 500 coins, about 100 were Hasmonean, most of the rest being Roman. Most of the pottery was also from the Roman period.

The archaeologists, who spent \$150,000 on this summer's work, plan several more seasons in order to uncover all of ancient Merot. They are supported by a number of U. S. universities.

AINA AIDS ISRAEL EMERGENCY FUND

by Robert Messing

AINA Auction Chairman

On June 25, 1974, at the Hotel Pierre in New York City, a stamp and coin auction was held by the *Israel Emergency Fund* of the *United Jewish Appeal* and *Federation of Jewish Philanthropies*. Federation, which supports hospitals, old age homes, YMHAs and other local charities in the New York City area, recently merged with the *United Jewish Appeal*. The entire proceeds of the auction were designated for the *Israel Emergency Fund*. Nothing was deducted for expenses and 100% of the amount raised went to Israel.

Many AINA members from across the United States submitted lots of coins and stamps which were auctioned that evening. A large number of the bidders at the auction itself were also AINA members. The total amount realized was over \$50,000. Part of this money will help rehabilitate soldiers still injured from the *Yom Kippur war*. The rest of the money will be spent on other social, educational and humanitarian needs of the *State of Israel*.

Soon after the auction, Morris Bram, AINA President, received a letter from former U. S. Congressman Herbert Tenzer, who is 1974 co-chairman of the Co-ordinated Campaigns of the *United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York* and the *Federation of Jewish Philanthropies*. It said in part, “your organization's generous cooperation was instrumental in assuring the success of the event, and we are truly grateful for all you have done to further our cause”.

PIDYON HABEN FOR 1975 ANNOUNCED



The Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation announced in Jerusalem two forthcoming numismatic issues of legal tender coins (minted by the Bank of Israel)—the HANNUKA and PIDYON HABEN coins. Due to world increases in the price of silver, the new coins will have higher face values than previous issues.

HANNUKA 1974 (Festival of Lights) coin.

This silver coin with face value of IL 10.00 will depict an oil lamp from Damascus of the 18th Century. This original lamp is part of an exhibition on display at the *Tel Aviv Museum*.

The Hannuka coin will be minted in BU and Proof—BU, minted with a Star of David, will have a smooth

edge and the mintage figure will be 125,000; Proof, minted with the Hebrew letter "mem", will have a milled edge and the mintage figure will be 75,000.

PIDYON HABEN 1975 (Redemption of the First-Born) coin.

These coins, which, in addition to their numismatic value, are also of great religious significance, have achieved great success in the international arena of numismatics.

The obverse of the 1975 coin will be similar to the 1974 issue, whereas the reverse has been graphically changed and bears the face value of IL 25.00.

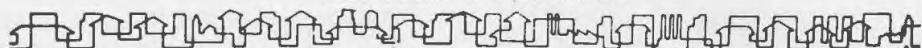
BU's, mintmarked with the Star of

Cont. on page 31



10 LIROT HANNUKA COIN FEATURES 18th CENTURY LAMP

Club News



ILLINOIS CLUB VIEWS ISRAELI MOVIE

An Israeli-made movie, "*The Wilderness of Zion*" was shown at a recent meeting of the INS of Illionis. Member Joe Sporn arranged the movie and took charge of its presentation.

Paul Moss exhibited his 17th century *Megilla* at a recent meeting. Hand-lettered in Hebrew on deerskin, each section of this Judaic item is fastened together with deer skin strips through punched holes. Mr. Moss believes that the *Megilla* probably came from North Germany.

Ben Odessa showed several Judaic tokens and also showed two old U.S. checks of special Judaic interest. Other recent exhibitors included Flower who displayed two 1972 medals from the *O.R.T. School of Engineering* in Israel, as well as a section from his album, *Judaic Numismatics in North America*.

WESTCHESTER VIEWS TWO SLIDE PRESENTATIONS

The Westchester INS recently viewed a special presentation of *The State Medals of Israel*. Prepared by IGCAM Corp., the program included slides with a recorded commentary. Slides were also recently shown to illustrate a talk on "*The Marching Medals of Israel*." Over forty specimens were shown.

Members took part in a special reception held in honor of Moshe Sanbar, Governor of the Bank of Israel.

MARYLAND CLUB LEARNS ABOUT ISRAELI STAMPS

Due to an unexpected, last-minute substitution made by the Maryland INS film supplier, the numismatists spent a recent evening delving into the production of Israeli stamps. After the movie, members returned to their more familiar area of interest by viewing a display of coins, paper money, tokens, and other items of Judaica.

WASHINGTON D. C. CLUB SPONSORS NUMIS-QUIZ

The Washington D.C. INS recently sponsored a NUMIS-Quiz. Knowledgeable members (several being nationally-recognized numismatic experts) took turns interpreting questions related to ancient and modern numismatics.

Members were invited to bring friends to the meeting in a successful effort to further broaden the group's membership.

Adolf Bondy was a contributor to a September issue of *Coin World*. His article on Eliezer ben Yehuda coincided with the distribution of *ben Yehuda* coins at the recent meeting.

Harold and Edith Nussbaum shared their impressions of their visit to Israel with fellow members. Mr. Nussbaum advised the listeners to hold on to their coins and medals while their value continues to soar.

Another recent meeting focused on personalities during this country's decisive wars. Col. Linus Goyette spoke about Judah P. Benjamin, Treasurer of the Confederacy, and Harold Nussbaum discussed the Jewish signatures on Continental Congress currency.

November elections dealt with the following slate:

President — Nelson Whitman
Vice-President — Joseph Bles
Treasurer — L. Allen Miller
Rec. Secretary — Myra Rosenthal
Corr. Secretary — Julius Cohn

BROOKLYN WELCOMES SPEAKER

Guest Speaker, David Ganz, a staff columnist on *Numismatic News*, spoke before the Brooklyn Society recently. He contributed a one-cent check drawn on an Iola, Wisconsin bank as a door prize which was later won by Ben Goldman. Mr. Ganz was recently appointed to the *Assay Commission* by former President Nixon.

Mr. Piemonte, editor of the *Ameri-*



FIRST MEETING OF RECENTLY FORMED CALIFORNIA SOCIETY

The first Open Meeting of the Israel Numismatic Society of Orange County, California, had 50 attendees, about half of whom are shown in this group photo taken by Gordon Z. Greene. The group meets in Tustin at the Mercury Savings and Loan Assn. on Irvine Blvd.

can Coin Club News, was introduced at the same meeting by Nathan Sobel, club president. He informed all present to be on the alert for a feature article on AINA to be published in the near future.

Moe Weinschel, Brooklyn club representative to the Florida ANA Convention, reported at the same time that member, Ray Ellenbogen's exhibit won a *Second Prize*.

President Sobel displayed the molds of the Wolyn Memorial Medal which he designed in memory of the one million slain martyrs of the Wolyn Regions of Eastern Poland. He explained the tedious process of creating a medal from the designing step through the minting.

CLEVELAND SPONSORS NUMISMATIC EDUCATIONAL FORUM

The *Numismatic Educational Forum*, a series of short, illustrated, informative presentations designed by members of the Executive Board has been initiated by the Cleveland INS. The 1954 100 Prutot Utrecht Die was the subject of a recent club session.

Plans call for instructional programs to be featured at each meeting. The intent of this program is to provide club members with greater knowledge

with which to increase pleasure in the hobby of coin-collecting.

Harvey Stone recently moderated a program devoted to teaching members how to identify the different varieties of the 1963 Israeli one pound coin. Another recent speaker, Dick Wengel, presented a slide commentary entitled "Traveling with Coins and People."

MASS. PLANS FIFTH ANNIVERSARY PARTY

The Massachusetts INS has set plans for its *Fifth Anniversary Celebration*. A dinner dance will be held on November 30 at the *Lantana* in Randolph. Yitzhak Avni will join the celebration as the Guest of Honor from Israel.

Recent club speakers have included Dr. Ira Rezak who discussed "*Medicine and Numismatics*". More recently, Mr. James Clapp III spoke on the theme of ancient Israeli coins.

NEW JERSEY INS ADDS MEMBERS

With the acceptance of Ronald Davis, Dr. Aron Jacobowitz, Albert Sandler, Albert Rothstein and Gilbert Gordon as new members; Jeff Weiss of the Israel Numismatic Society of

Central Jersey Highland Park, said there is a total of 140.

Leonard Axelrod read the first draft of the constitution at a meeting. It went back to the committee for additions and corrections. Committee members are Robert Kaufman, Milton Hershekovitz and Sam Rosenweig.

Awards for the evening went to Lester Feller, Ashok Shah, David Paszaman and Rosenweig, with a special prize to Albert Sandler.

NEW CLUB SCHEDULES FULL SEASON

AINA's newest club, Israel Numismatic Society of Orange County (*Calif.*), has speedily set into action a full season of events including guest speakers, an election, an auction and culminating with a gala banquet set for early December.

Ben and Claire Abelson presented the club's first program when they discussed Israel's 1-pound commemorative coins. "*The Story of Israel in Coins*" was the theme of a program recently presented by guest speakers, Maurice and Jean Gould. The Goulds authored a book in 1971 bearing the same title as the program's subject. Also features at a recent meeting was a successful auction with proceeds to help build the young club's treasury.

The Orange County INS has announced plans for a banquet with international guest Yitzhak Avni, Nahum Hacoheh, and AINA President Morris Bram. The 1975 officers will be installed at this time, and the special guests will join in wishing success to AINA's newest branch.

JOINT MEETING PLANNED IN CALIFORNIA FOR DECEMBER

A joint meeting has been planned for December incorporating four neighboring clubs. The clubs to participate in this mass meeting include the Israel Coin Club of Los Angeles; The Israel Numismatic Society of San Gabriel Valley; the Israel Coin Club of San Fernando Valley, and the Israel Numismatic Society of Orange County.

LOS ANGELES CLUB SPONSORS ELEPHANT SALE

The Israel Coin Club of Los Angeles recently put together a "Blue and White Elephant Sale" which reaped over \$100.00 for the club treasury. The few items which remained unbought were auctioned off at the following meeting.

Ben Abelson and Milt Feingold are credited with having organized the successful event.

MASS. MEETING HEARS OF ANCIENT COINS

INS of Mass. past president, Ed Shade, was recently named National Chairman of AINA's Forest in Israel Committee. Gad Baker, Executive Director of the *Jewish National Fund of New England* spoke at a recent meeting about this project.

At another recent autumn meeting, Mr. Clapp recounted the history of Ancient Judea and Palestine from 600 BCE to 260 CE, through the coins that were in use during this period. He displayed many of these coins to illustrate his discussion.

NEW JERSEY INS LEARNS ABOUT COUNTERFEITS

At a recent meeting of the Israel Numismatic Society of New Jersey, members were surprised when Carl Rosenblum displayed two similar 1927 Palestinian coins, and remarked that one was a counterfeit. Compounding this confusion, Mr. Rosenblum further explained that both the authentic and counterfeit coins were of equal value. This quality stems from the law of supply and demand.

Louis Susskind was the featured speaker at another recent meeting. The procedure for measuring specific gravity in order to determine the metallic content of coins was the subject of Mr. Susskind's lecture and demonstration.

ILLINOIS CLUB ISSUES FIFTH ANNIVERSARY COIN

The Israel Numismatic Society of Illinois has recently issued a medal which commemorates the club's fifth anniversary. Inscribed on the nickel-silver uniface medal in English and in Hebrew, is the club's founding year (1969).



Members David Silverman and Saul B. Needleman designed the medal which was then prepared by the Asco Inc. of Winona, Minnesota. The club plans to add appropriate inscriptions in the future so that these coins may be used as special awards, speaker's medals, and to signify permanent club membership.

The club's fifth anniversary coin has a limited edition of 250. It is available for \$6.50 (postpaid) from: The Secretary of INSI, Box 326, 430 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Illinois 60605.

NEW ISSUES (Cont.)

David, will for the time being be issued according to demand, and the Proof edition, with milled edge and mintmarked with the Hebrew letter "mem", will have a mintage figure of 75,000.

The Corporation has also announced the final mintage figures of the 1974 Pidyon Haben BU coin — 115,000.

Because of unforeseen circumstances connected mainly with the distribution of the Ben Gurion commemorative gold and silver coins, the distribution of these two coins will be delayed until after the planned December 1974 issue date.

QUEENS INS BEGINS LIFE

The Israel Numismatic Society of Queens, N. Y., was founded in the Temple Beth Sholom, Queens. On hand was Morris Bram, president of the American Israel Numismatic Association. During the evening 34 members signed up. Charter memberships will be open until Dec. 31.

Moe Weinschel heads the pro-tem officers as president. Robert Lane is vice president; Arthur Reich, treasurer; Lillian Singer, recording secretary; Edward Beruch, editor; Ed Janis, membership, with the constitution committee of Larry Singer, Jules Labek and Frank W. Porcaro.

Starting in 1975, meetings will be held on the first Monday of each month in the Temple.

GLENHILL PRESIDENT OF CONNECTICUT INS

Albert H. Gledhill is president of the Israel Numismatic Society of Connecticut, West Hartford, founded nearly two years ago. Stanley Ptasznik is vice president; Gerald Krupnikoff, treasurer; Harriett Gledhill, recording secretary; Helena Melcher, corresponding secretary, and Al Gledhill, Jr., sergeant at arms.

INS OF N. Y. FINDS BUS COMPANY INTERESTING

"The Egged Bus Company" was the subject of Alan Weinberg at a meeting of the Israel Numismatic Society of New York at a meeting in the Americana hotel. He told of the growth from its inception to the present day.

His exhibit to illustrate the presentation included bus route maps and schedules, tickets of various denominations and a variety of hole punches used to cancel the tickets.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Cont.)

spite all of the agonies in the world . . . in the U. S. and in Israel, AINA's programs and development have not been on anything but an UP-beat.

You will read in this issue of *The Shekel* that AINA has just had the privilege to issue *AINA Membership No. 5000* — to Moshe Sanbar, Governor of the Bank of Israel.

You will read in this issue of *The Shekel* of the amazing vitality of the new clubs of our ever-growing organization.

You will read in this issue of *The Shekel* of the activities of individual AINA members who have made numerous contributions to Israel and to our educational responsibility as a centre for American-Israel friendship.

For example, this year's group visiting Israel in March will be the first AINA group to visit the hillside near the Kennedy Memorial which will be the site of the AINA Forest. The start for this plant-a tree-in-Israel project is in the INS of Massachusetts and one of its most dynamic club-builders, Ed Shade.

For example, the already started planning for the 1975 AINA Convention which will have Ed Janis, former president of the INS of New York and of other local numismatic groups, a longtime member of the AINA Board and especially well-known to readers of *The Shekel* for his *Aleph Beth* columns, who has been appointed *General Chairman*.

The point I am making is that AINA members — new ones in the South or California, the Midwest, stalwarts in New England, New York and wherever I go, have made it possible for the giant steps ahead we are taking.

Our organization now has more members . . . more clubs (over 40 and on the way to 50) . . . and more

enthusiasm than any other numismatic group in the world. So if I am proud, this is your time to share the pride with me.

*Cordially, and a Happy New Year.
Shalom,*

MORRIS BRAM, President

HANUKKA

(Continued from page 3)

elephant bearing the king which meant his certain death and "winning everlasting renown for himself" (ibid.).

The special Hebrew name for the Hanukka lamp is *Hanukkiya*. The fifth coin dated 1962 shows a seventeenth century bronze lamp from Italy that is found in the Israel Museum in Jerusalem.

The sixth coin issued in 1963 depicts a *Hanukkiya* of copper-bronze eighteenth century North Africa.

In 1972, a new series of lamps was inaugurated with the denomination of five pounds. The *Hanukkiya* is a twentieth century Russian lamp of cast lead found in the Israel Museum. The coin reminds the world of the plight of contemporary Russian Jews and their present-day struggle for freedom.

The 1973 *Hanukkiya* is an eighteenth century Babylonian lamp exhibited at the Israel Museum. The coin symbolizes the struggle of Jews in Arab lands for immigration to Israel.

THE FIRST FOREST
IN ISRAEL PLANTED
BY A NUMISMATIC
GROUP WILL BE THE
AINA FOREST

YOUR PARTICIPATION
WILL BE NEEDED.

WATCH YOUR
MAIL—SEE YOUR CLUB
FOR DETAILS



The Governor of the Bank of Israel, The Hon. Moshe Sanbar, presents Mr. Morris Bram, President of the American Israel Numismatic Association with the *Bank of Israel Silver Medal*.



**BEN-GURION
COMMEMORATIVE
COIN SET
OF GOLD AND SILVER COINS
ANNOUNCED
IN ISRAEL**

TO BE ISSUED IN ISRAEL IN DECEMBER

*SEE PAGE 19
FOR DETAILS*